

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 EURE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5357

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS PARIS 28092

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PINS FR LE

SUBJECT: FRENCH GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON LEBANON

FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT STATEMENT
ON PRESIDENT SARKIS' INAUGURATION SEPTEMBER 23.

"THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT REJOICES IN MR. ELIAS SARKIS'
ACCESSION TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE LEBANESE REPUBLIC. IT
EXPRESSES ITS WARMEST WISHES FOR THE WORK OF NATIONAL RECONCI-
LIATION THAT HE HAS UNDERTAKEN AND FOR WHICH HIS EMINENT QUALITIES
ESPECIALLY DESTINED HIM.

"FRANCE, FRIEND OF LEBANON, SINCERELY HOPES THAT THE ASSUMPTION
OF POWER BY THE NEW PRESIDENT WILL FAVOR THE CONTINUATION OF
THE POLITICAL PROCESS BEGUN IN ORDER THAT THE CIVIL FIGHTING
WHICH HAS TORN THE COUNTRY FOR 18 MONTHS WILL END.

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"IT HOPES THAT THE DIFFERENT ELEMENTS OF THE LEBANESE

COMMUNITY SUCCEED IN REDEFINING TOGETHER THE CONDITIONS OF A NEW
PEACEFUL AND HARMONIOUS COEXISTENCE RESPECTING THE UNITY,
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND SOVEREIGNTY OF THE COUNTRY. AS IT
HAS STATED MANY TIMES, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, FOR ITS PART,
REMAINS EVER READY TO BRING LEBANON THE POLITICAL SUPPORT AND
COOPERATION WHICH IT MAY NEED, NOTABLY IN HELPING ITS RECONS-
TRUCTION EFFORTS."

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